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10/788,530

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EXAMINER

ULRICH, NICHOLAS S

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/788,530	Applicant(s) MUSSON ET AL.	
	Examiner NICHOLAS S. ULRICH	Art Unit 2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 August 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-67 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-67 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/30/2008, 8/11/2008</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-67 are pending
2. Claims 1, 18, 34, 50, and 67 are amended.
3. The IDS filed 5/30/2008 and 8/11/2008 have been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claim 18-49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shiigi et al. (US 2003/0014442 A1).

In regard to claim 18, Shiigi discloses a method for rendering a graphical user interface (GUI), comprising:

accepting a request (*Paragraph 0039 lines 3-4*);

mapping the request to a set of controls that represent the GUI, and wherein the controls are organized in a logical hierarchy (*Paragraph 0014 lines 12-14, Paragraph 0016 and Paragraph 0056: Controls are organized in a template hierarchy which*

provides entitlement for each of the controls based on the tags specified within the template);

traversing the representation, wherein the traversing comprises: associating a theme control with a first control in the set of controls (*Paragraph 0082 lines 4-6: The Object model is invoked*)

rendering the first control according to a theme set by the theme control (*Paragraph 0050: step 1*);

rendering any descendents of the first control according to the theme of the theme control (*Paragraph 0051: Step 2*);

and wherein any descendents of the first control can override the theme of the theme control (*Paragraph 0051 lines 10-12*);

wherein the theme control and additional theme control are part of the logical hierarchy (*Fig 2: Master template and template extensions are clearly shown as part of hierarchy*).

In regard to claim 34, Shiigi discloses a method for rendering a graphical user interface (GUI), comprising:

providing for the representation of the GUI as a plurality of controls wherein the controls are organized in a logical hierarchy (*Paragraph 0014 lines 12-14, Paragraph 0016 and Paragraph 0056: Controls are organized in a template hierarchy which provides entitlement for each of the controls based on the tags specified within the template*);

traversing the representation, wherein the traversing comprises: associating a first theme control with a first control in the plurality of controls (*Paragraph 0082 lines 4-6: The Object model is invoked*);

rendering the first control according to the first theme set by the first theme control (*Paragraph 0050: step 1*);

associating a second theme control with a second control in the plurality of controls (*Fig 2 element 32: template extension provides for the second set of controls to be added*);

rendering the second control according to the second theme set by the second theme control (*Paragraph 0051: Step 2: the second control is determined from template extension*);

and wherein the second control is a descendant of the first control (*Fig 2 elements 30 and 32: element 30 is first control, element 32 is second control which depends from 30*);

wherein the first theme control and the second theme control are part of the logical hierarchy (*Fig 2: Master template and template extensions are clearly shown as part of hierarchy*).

In regard to claims 22 and 39, Shiigi discloses one of the set of controls can respond to an event raised by another of the set of controls (*Paragraph 0079*).

In regard to claims 23 and 40, Shiigi discloses a control can have an interchangeable persistence mechanism (*Fig 5 element 38*).

In regard to claims 24 and 41, Shiigi discloses a control can have an interchangeable rendering mechanism (*Fig 5 element 38*).

In regard to claim 35, Shiigi discloses accepting a request (*Paragraph 0039 lines 3-4*).

In regard to claims 19 and 36, Shiigi discloses the request in a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) request (*Paragraph 0039: lines 2-4 and Paragraph 0100 line 7*).

In regard to claims 20 and 37, Shiigi discloses the request originates from a web browser (*Paragraph 0039 lines 2-4*).

In regard to claims 21 and 38, Shiigi discloses generating a response (*Paragraph 0041 lines 1-3*).

In regard to claims 25 and 42, Shiigi discloses an control can represent one of: button, text field, menu, table, window, window control, title bar, pop-up window, checkbox button, radio button, window frame, desktop, shell, head, body, header, footer, book, page, layout, placeholder, portlet and toggle button (*Paragraph 0055- 0075*).

In regard to claim 26, Shiigi discloses associating the theme with first control can occur when the first control is rendered (*Paragraph 0050: Master template defines the first controls when rendered*).

In regard to claims 27 and 43, Shiigi discloses the first control inherits the theme from a parent control (*Paragraph 0047/ines 11-13*).

In regard to claims 28 and 44, Shiigi discloses the theme specifies the appearance and/or functioning of an control in the GUI (*Paragraph 0016*).

In regard to claims 29 and 45, Shiigi discloses rendering the first control according to the theme can be accomplished in parallel with rendering of other controls (*Fig 3 step 1 elements 36 A and 36 C: Two controls have been rendered simultaneously with the master template*).

In regard to claims 30 and 46, Shiigi discloses the theme can be specified in whole or in part by a properties file (*Paragraph 0078 lines 1-4: template files have properties which define the theme of the page*).

In regard to claims 31 and 47, Shiigi discloses the properties file can include at least one of: 1) cascading style sheet; 2) Java Server Page; 3) Extensible Markup

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Language; 4) text; 5) Hypertext Markup Language; 6) Extensible Hypertext Markup Language; 7) JavaScript; and 8) Flash MX (*Paragraph 0078 line 4: using HTML*).

In regard to claims 32 and 48, Shiigi discloses the properties file can specify at least one image (*Paragraph 0057*).

In regard to claims 33 and 49, Shiigi discloses the GUI is part of a portal on the World Wide Web (*Paragraph 0100*).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-17 and 50-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiigi et al. (US 2003/0014442 A1) and Knudsen et al. (Learning Java, O'Reilly 5/2000).

In regard to claims 1, 50, and 67, Shiigi discloses a method and machine readable medium for rendering a graphical user interface (GUI), comprising:

providing for the representation of the GUI as a set of controls wherein the controls are organized in a logical hierarchy (*Paragraph 0014 lines 12-14, Paragraph*

0016 and Paragraph 0056: Controls are organized in a template hierarchy which provides entitlement for each of the controls based on the tags specified within the template);

traversing the representation, wherein the traversing comprises:

associating a theme control with a first control in the set of controls (*Paragraph 0082 lines 4-6: The Object model is invoked*);

rendering the first control according to a theme set by the theme control (*Paragraph 0050: step 1*);

rendering any descendents of the first control according to the theme (*Paragraph 0051: Step 2*);

wherein an additional theme control which is an descendent of the first control can override the theme (*Paragraph 0051 lines 10-12*);

wherein the theme control and additional theme control are part of the logical hierarchy (*Fig 2: Master template and template extensions are clearly shown as part of hierarchy*).

While Shiigi teaches implementing their invention using the JAVA programming environment (*Paragraph 0037*), they fail to show the wherein one of the set of controls can communicate with another set of controls as recited in the claims. Knudsen teaches methods implemented using a JAVA programming language. In addition, Knudsen further teaches wherein one of the set of controls can communicate with another set of controls (*Pg 10 lines 14-17, pg 19 lines 25-29, pg 22 lines 5-11, pg 25 lines 33-36, and pg 31 lines 12-14*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in the art, having the teachings of Shiigi before him at the time the invention was made, to include the callback mechanisms of the JAVA programming language, shown by Knudson, in order to obtain inter-control communication. It would have been advantageous for one to utilize such a combination as a behavior that is defined by one object and then later invoked by another object when a particular event occurs would have been obtained, as suggested by Knudsen (*Pg 31*). One skilled in the art knows that GUI regularly implement controls that communicate with other controls. The methods of having listener and observer type controls are well known. They provide a GUI with the ability to have certain objects respond to the user interacting with various different objects on the GUI.

In regard to claims 2 and 51, Shiigi discloses one of the set of controls can respond to an event raised by another of the set of controls (*Paragraph 0079*).

In regard to claims 3 and 52, Shiigi discloses a control can have an interchangeable persistence mechanism (*Fig 5 element 38*).

In regard to claims 4 and 53, Shiigi discloses a control can have an interchangeable rendering mechanism (*Fig 5 element 38*).

In regard to claims 5 and 54, Shiigi discloses accepting a request (*Paragraph 0039 lines 3-4*).

In regard to claims 6 and 55, Shiigi discloses the request in a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) request (*Paragraph 0039: lines 2-4 and Paragraph 0100 line 7*).

In regard to claims 7 and 56, Shiigi discloses the request originates from a web browser (*Paragraph 0039 lines 2-4*).

In regard to claims 8 and 57, Shiigi discloses generating a response (*Paragraph 0041 lines 1-3*).

In regard to claims 9 and 58, Shiigi discloses an control can represent one of: button, text field, menu, table, window, window control, title bar, pop-up window, checkbox button, radio button, window frame, desktop, shell, head, body, header, footer, book, page, layout, placeholder, portlet and toggle button (*Paragraph 0055- 0075*).

In regard to claims 10 and 59, Shiigi discloses associating the theme with first control can occur when the first control is rendered (*Paragraph 0050: Master template defines the first controls when rendered*).

In regard to claims 11 and 60, Shiigi discloses the first control inherits the theme from a parent control (*Paragraph 0047/ines 11-13*).

In regard to claims 12 and 61, Shiigi discloses the theme specifies the appearance and/or functioning of an control in the GUI (*Paragraph 0016*).

In regard to claims 13 and 62, Shiigi discloses rendering the first control according to the theme can be accomplished in parallel with rendering of other controls (*Fig 3 step 1 elements 36 A and 36 C: Two controls have been rendered simultaneously with the master template*).

In regard to claims 14 and 63, Shiigi discloses the theme can be specified in whole or in part by a properties file (*Paragraph 0078 lines 1-4: template files have properties which define the theme of the page*).

In regard to claims 15 and 64, Shiigi discloses the properties file can include at least one of: 1) cascading style sheet; 2) Java Server Page; 3) Extensible Markup Language; 4) text; 5) Hypertext Markup Language; 6) Extensible Hypertext Markup Language; 7) JavaScript; and 8) Flash MX (*Paragraph 0078 line 4: using HTML*).

In regard to claims 16 and 65, Shiigi discloses the properties file can specify at least one image (*Paragraph 0057*).

In regard to claims 17 and 66, Shiigi discloses the GUI is part of a portal on the World Wide Web (*Paragraph 0100*).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 5/30/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that "the theme control and additional theme control are part of logical hierarchy" is not shown or made obvious in the cited prior art. The examiner disagrees. Clearly shown by Shiigi in Figure 2 and paragraph 0047, is that the template extensions are part of the Object Model hierarchy. One can understand from Shiigi disclosure, that the templates are functional in the same way as the "themes" described in the present disclosure. Therefore, Shiigi does disclose the theme control are part of the logical hierarchy and the claims stand rejected.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NICHOLAS S. ULRICH whose telephone number is (571)270-1397. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 9:00 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dennis Chow can be reached on (571)272-7767. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nicholas Ulrich
8/27/2008
2173

/Tadesse Hailu/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2173